

COAL HERITAGE

RFCS Accompanying Measure Project

NEWSLETTER

Issue No.

9

November 2024



CoalHeritage project has received funding from the Research Fund for Coal and Steel under grant agreement No 101112138



KOMTECH CONFERENCE

by dr. Kamil Szezerda

KOMTECH - International Scientific and Technical Conference was organized in Szczyrk, Poland, November 4-6, 2024 (Fig. 1). The organizer of the conference was the KOMAG Institute of Mining Technology.



Figure 1

One session of the conference was dedicated to the CoalHeritage project. This session was held on November 5, 2024. The agenda for this session was as follows:

Project session – CoalHeritage (Conservation and promotion of the Coal Mining Heritage as EU's cultural legacy)

1. CoalHeritage project: objectives and impacts – Nikolaos Koukouzas.
2. Cultural and natural heritages: definition, legal framework and application to coal-mining – Laurent Beccaletto
3. Adaptation of mine sites into tourist and cultural facilities as a way to protect and preserve mining heritage – a review of successful examples – Magdalena Rozmus, Kamil Szezerda
4. Standards and mechanisms for the management of mining heritage sites. Coal Heritage research findings – Sylwia Jarosławska-Sobór, Robert Hildebrandt
5. Virtual reality and 3D models as tools for the presentation of mining heritage assets – Kamil Szezerda, Dariusz Michalak
6. Design and production of CoalHeritage Visual Map Journal – Andreas Karavias

Our session at the KOMTECH conference was conducted in a hybrid mode. Some presenters were present personally, and others were available online

via MS Teams or delivered the recording of their presentations.

During the entire session, an interpreter was present in the room to provide simultaneous translation of presentations in English into Polish for the Polish audience present at the conference and presentations in Polish into English for the foreign partners.

The conference was streamed live on the YouTube channel, and a recording of the stream is available at the link:

https://www.youtube.com/live/G5OOE_5MAx8

Six papers were delivered during the session. The first referee, titled "CoalHeritage project: objectives and Impacts," was presented online by Dr. Nikolaos Koukouzas of CERTH, Greece (Fig. 2). In this presentation, the project coordinator presented the main objectives of the project and also the current status of the various works.



Figure 2

The second paper was entitled "Cultural and natural heritages: definition, legal framework and application to coal-mining," was also presented online by Dr. Laurent Beccaletto of BRGM from France (Fig. 3). In this presentation, basic concepts, definitions, and legal aspects related to Cultural and Natural Heritage were presented. It also presented how heritage is categorized as adopted by the CoalHeritage project.

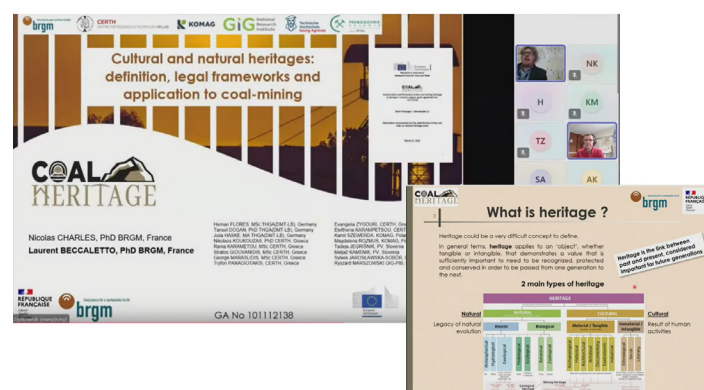


Figure 3

The third presentation entitled "Adaptation of mine sites into tourist and cultural facilities as a way to

protect and preserve mining heritage - a review of successful examples" Ms. Magdalena Rozmus, Ph.D., from KOMAG, Poland, presented examples of already carried out transformation of coal mining sites into tourist facilities (Fig. 4). Examples of interesting tourist sites of partner countries were discussed.

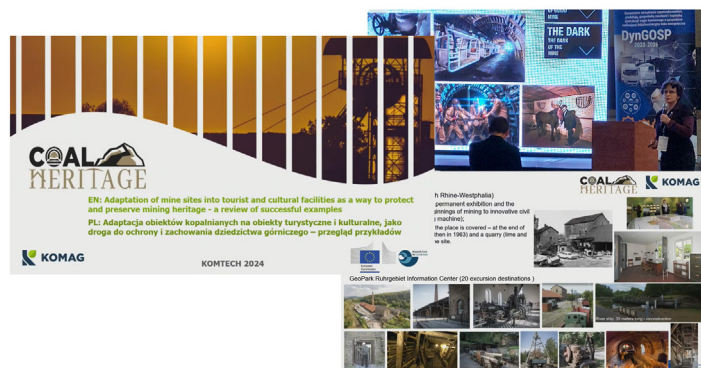


Figure 4

Another presentation was entitled "Standards and mechanisms for the management of mining heritage sites. Coal Heritage research Findings" was presented by Dr. Sylwia Jaroslawska-Sobór of GIG PIB from Poland (Fig. 5). This presentation discussed both the methodology and results of research related to the management and inventory associated with coal heritage sites.



Figure 5

The next paper was entitled "Virtual reality and 3D models as tools for the presentation of mining heritage assets," presented by Dr. Eng. Kamil Szwedra of KOMAG from Poland, presented both a methodology for creating and making public 3D models of mining machinery and objects related to the mining industry in order to promote this heritage (Fig. 6). The topic of the use of VR in the presentation of coal mining heritage was also discussed.



Figure 6

The last presentation was entitled "Design and production of CoalHeritage Visual Map Journal" was made by Mr. Andreas Karavias of CERTH from Greece (Fig. 7). During this presentation, the method of creation and the possibilities as well as the status of work related to the European Visual Map Journal, which is one of the final results of the CoalHeritage project, were presented.



Figure 7

In addition to the session where papers were presented, the conference hosted a stand promoting the CoalHeritage project (Fig. 8). The stand included promotional materials as all issues of the newsletter, printed QR codes linking to EVMJ, the catalog of 3D models on Sketchfab, project social media, and the Stakeholder Awareness Online Survey.



Figure 8



CoalHeritage - European Visual Map Journal



KOMAG - CoalHeritage - Sketchfab



Stakeholder Awareness Online Survey

In addition, the stand also included a touchscreen (Fig. 9) display that showed both the CoalHeritage project website and models of mining machinery.



Figure 9

Another aspect at the stand was the opportunity to use VR goggles to view 3D models of machines through

this technology (Fig. 10). It is worth mentioning here that our stand enjoyed considerable interest. During the conference, a number of presentations of project results were held, which resulted in a number of new contacts in the area of mining heritage.



Figure 10

CoalHeritage Partners and Members

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